



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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SACHI A. HAMAI
Chief Executive Officer

January 15, 2016

To: Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, Chair
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: Sachi A. Hamai
Chief Executive Officer

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Third District

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MOTION BY SUPERVISORS SOLIS AND KNABE ON EXPANDING WINTER SHELTERS FOR HOMELESS (DECEMBER 15, 2015, AGENDA ITEM 61B)

On December 15, 2015, the Board adopted a motion to expand winter shelters for homeless adults and families with children directing the Chief Executive Officer to:

- 1) Report back within 30 days with a plan for an expedited solicitation process that would allow the opening of additional winter shelters, including transportation options to the additional winter shelter sites; and
- 2) In coordination with the Director of the Office of Child Protection, to report back within 30 days with a list of philanthropic agencies that would provide funding to house families with children.

Winter Shelter for Single Adults

No expedited solicitation process for single adults is required at this juncture. The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) has contracted with winter shelter providers. As of the last census of winter shelter providers on January 7, 2016, 1,971 beds have been contracted, of which 1,497 or 76 percent of beds were occupied on that night. In addition, there are seven County augmented winter shelter sites with a capacity of 1,131 beds; these sites are activated when dictated by very cold and/or wet weather conditions. The highest number of occupied beds recorded since the inception of the augmented winter shelter sites is 286 on January 6, 2016.

The County's planning for El Niño has included the development of a list of County sites that, if needed, could be used for additional emergency shelter during wet weather storms or in freezing temperatures, if demand for the winter shelter and augmented winter shelter sites exceeds capacity. At this time, there is no need to expand winter

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shelter capacity for single adults. If the need should change and additional County sites are required to provide temporary shelter, LAHSA and its existing sub-contractors would assume responsibility for the additional sites; County departments could provide support staff, as could the Red Cross, in the event that there is a declaration of a local emergency. Therefore, there is not a need for a solicitation process.

Crisis Housing for Families

LAHSA operates the Homeless Families Solutions System (HFSS), a coordinated network of community-based, homeless family service providers located in each Service Planning Area which provide intake assessments, triage families for housing and service interventions, and employ rapid re-housing to address family homelessness in Los Angeles County. This system for homeless families operates year-round and contracts for a total of 1,835 short-term and medium-term crisis housing beds. If family-shelter capacity is reached countywide, families receive motel vouchers. From July – December 2015, a total of 337 unduplicated families received a motel voucher.

In fiscal year (FY) 2014-15, of the 3,197 unique families assessed and enrolled into HFSS, approximately 811 (25%) families were assisted with crisis housing only, and 415 (13%) needed both crisis housing and permanent housing assistance. LAHSA recently completed the first-quarter report for FY 2015-16 and has identified a need for additional supports to fund crisis housing for HFSS. LAHSA is currently developing a proposal for additional Homeless Prevention Initiative (HPI) funding to address the crisis housing gap for families, and anticipates completing the proposal no later than the end of this month. In the meantime, FY 2015-16 funding budgeted for crisis housing for families is sufficient to meet the demand, though additional funding may be needed to ensure that funding remains available through the end of FY 2015-16. The Chief Executive Office has the ability to fund emergent needs via HPI, as long as the dollar amount is under \$250,000. Amounts exceeding this cap would require Board approval.

The Home for Good Funders Collaborative is a collection of public and private funders that have partnered to invest in critical solutions to address homelessness in Los Angeles County. The private philanthropy members of this collaborative are:

California Community Foundation
The California Endowment
The Carl and Roberta Deutsch Foundation
Cedars-Sinai
City National Bank
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation
CSH – The Source for Housing Solutions

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Enterprise
Jewish Community Foundation Los Angeles
JPMorgan Chase & Co.
Kaiser Permanente
Mayor's Fund Los Angeles
Pacific Western Bank
United Way Greater Los Angeles
Weingart Foundation
W.M. Keck Foundation

If there proved to be a need for philanthropic funding for crisis housing for families in the future, these philanthropic agencies could be contacted through the United Way.

If you have any questions, please contact Phil Ansell, Director, Homeless Initiative at (213) 974-1752, or at pansell@ceo.lacounty.gov.

SAH:JJ:PA
LB:ef

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority
United Way-Home for Good

